

SECRET

EGMA - 46246 / 1

5 September 1979

DANIEL, Wilhelmus van Ryndt

On 21 July 1979, Department ED-8, Police Headquarters, Police
Presidium, Munich PG9135, Germany, furnished Region IV, 66th CIC Group,
Munich, Germany, a copy of statements made by **SUBJECT**, which has been
translated and are attached as Exhibit I and Exhibit II.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2006

FOR COORDINATION^{ed} WITH US Army

JOE P. ERWIN, 66th CIC Group

Police Department Munich
Criminal Police - KD 2

Munich, 25 June 1959

STATEMENT OF ACCUSED

Having been apprehended, advised of the subject of the interrogation, and warned to tell the truth, the person referred to hereinafter, a resident of Clemensstrasse, Munich, made the following statement:

1. Name: Wilhelmine DARMOPIL nee Rybnikar
2. Date of Birth and Place of Birth: 24 May 1909, Bremen
3. Occupation: Seamstress and housewife, employed as a seamstress at Henry Casern and Warner Casern, US Army.
Husband: Johann Darmopil, inspector of the judiciary service, Office of the Prosecutor Munich I.
4. Income: Roughly DM 400 - (DM 1.40 hourly wage)
Property: None
5. Marital status: Married to Johann Darmopil,
residence: 56/4 Clemensstrasse, Munich
Income of husband: DM 700.
6. Children: Son, aged 27
7. Parents: Martin and Maria Rybnikar nee Shupalova, tailor, both deceased
8. Citizenship: German
9. Religion: Roman Catholic
10. Honorary offices: None
11. Identification: Passport # 5558051, reg. # 26325/53, issued by AFO Munich.
Driver's License Class III, issued by AFO Munich on 4 July 1958, roster # 223148

Personal Data:

I am the youngest of six children. I have three sisters and one brother, the other brother died at the age of 17. All brothers and sisters live in the GDR. They are married, their present names are:

Stepanka Vackova, Marie Schupytzowa, Franziska Schupytzowa, Adolf Rybnikar.
All but Stepanka reside at Erbe XII, Stepanka resides at Ostrava.

EXHIBIT
FILE

SUBJECT
dtd

REGION IV (MUNICH)

DARMOPIL, Wilhelmine nee Rybnikar
3 September 1959

I attended 3 grades of German and 2 grades of Czech elementary school in Bruenn. Subsequently I attended 3 years of high school. After completion of school I stayed at my parents' house for one year. Then I learned the trade of seamstress in a garment factory. On 2 August 1931 I married Johann Durnopil in Bruenn. My husband and I have a daughter, Eva Novotny, now residing at Gumburg (Bohemia) II, Vrehlickyho ulice 772. My husband is a veterinarian. Pending his induction, my husband was in the military service at Tieschowitz where we resided. My husband became a POW and I had no word from him till 1948. In 1945, after the cessation of hostilities, because we were Germans, I was interned at Tieschowitz. I believe I was released from the camp some 9 months later, but I was assigned to work in a household or a hotel. During my stay in the internment camp I underwent abdominal surgery. As of 1947 or 1948 I had been living in Bruenn. At the time, my daughter was still a minor and I was allowed to live with her. However, I was still assigned to work. In 1948 when my husband was released from the POW camp, he first tried to join me in Bruenn. His petition for repatriation to the CSH was denied. Therefore, I filed a petition for expatriation to West Germany. This petition was granted and in July 1950, I was able to join my husband in Munich. I have been living here ever since. My daughter Eva had been going steady with a boy-friend at the time, whom she planned to marry, consequently she did not put in for expatriation. At first I did not work in Munich, but later I did some needlework for people I knew. From 1953 to 1958, with but a few breaks, I worked as a seamstress for the Americans, partly at Warner and partly at Henry caserns. I made very good money there; there were times when I even made DM 700 monthly, for the most part, though I made less. I would say a monthly average of DM 400. I do know that my husband has debts amounting to several thousand DM but I cannot tell exactly how much he owes. The debts result from the purchase of an automobile, also we received a WKV loan of several hundred marks. I don't know the accurate sum because I never paid any attention to it.

I have not been working since 1958, I merely did occasional jobs once in awhile. Only on 22 June 1959, I started working as a cutter for the firm Bruestle, Munich, knitted-wear factory, Munich, Knebelstrasse 16. I received DM 1.40 hourly wages. I have no criminal record.

Facts:

I am familiar with the subject of the interrogation. After a preliminary talk I admit having been aware of my husband's relations with the Czech Intelligence Service (CIS). I also knew that he provided the CIS with information and that he received money in return. I personally attended the meetings in Vienna, Zurich and St. Gallen, I was not present though when my husband talked with the CIS. He merely told me that he had to check up on some addresses for the CIS. I shall now relate how contact with the CIS had been established:

I believe it was in March 1954, that my husband and I boarded a train and went to Vienna where we wanted to visit the CSH consulate and discuss the expatriation

of our daughter who lived in the CSR. My husband had told me that he had been told to see one Herr Pospishil in Vienna who might be able to help him. I don't know who told my husband to go and see Pospishil. We arrived in Vienna towards the evening and booked a room at the Hotel Zosch. We had supper together with a man we had met on the train to Vienna. The man, however, had nothing to do with this case. Next morning my husband and I went to see Pospishil at the CSR consulate. Inasmuch as my husband was kind of apprehensive (the CSR consulate was situated in the Russian Sector) we entered a police station where my husband voiced his apprehension. I don't know precisely what he told the police, but two officers accompanied us to the consulate and waited in front of the building till we left it. My husband was afraid because he had been wanted by the Czechs after the war. At the consulate we saw Pospishil. We talked with him for a while, then he received a call and told us that he had to leave now. At the same time he told us to be back again in the afternoon. In the meantime we had a snack and returned to the consulate. This time we were not accompanied by police officers. I don't know any longer whether my husband told me to wait for him downstairs, or whether I volunteered to wait there, but it is a fact that my husband saw Pospishil alone. He may have stayed with him a half hour or longer. When my husband stated that he met Pospishil in a tavern in the evening I want to state that this is not true because I can well remember what happened. When my husband returned from Pospishil he told me that Pospishil would be able to arrange things so that Eva would come to Vienna. However, he was unable to be more specific at this time. My husband also told me that we would be required to travel to Vienna again before long and see Pospishil once more. He did not tell me that he was supposed to find the addresses of some emigrants for Pospishil. That same night we returned to Munich.

Several weeks later my husband and I again went to Vienna where he had an appointment with Pospishil.

The interrogation was interrupted at 12 noon.

Interrogation continued at 1330 hours.

We again boarded a train and arrived in Vienna at night. We met Pospishil in a tavern near the Ostbahnhof. He may as well have met us at the railway station, I am no longer positive to that point. Pospishil greeted me curiously and left with my husband while I was waiting at the restaurant at the station. My husband returned in about 1-1/2 hours. My husband told me that Pospishil promised him to see to it that we could see our daughter, but in return he would be required to bring him addresses of Czech emigrants, also of such who work for Radio Free Europe. I believe that Pospishil gave my husband DM 300 at the time. I am no longer positive whether my husband told me at that time that Pospishil took interest in members of RFE. Maybe he did as later. I am no longer positive, either, whether my husband was also reimbursed for his expenses in addition to that money. I don't recall right now whether we spent the night in Vienna on the occasion of the second trip or whether we returned home that same night. But

I believe that we stayed at the Hotel Zeech. My husband told me that we would be required to see Pospishil in Vienna again one or two months later.

Some two months later we again boarded a train and attended the meeting in Vienna with Pospishil. My husband told me that he had the addresses of various emigrants with him. I don't know what addresses he had or how many there were as I never saw the list. Likewise I am unable to recall the accurate date of these meetings. I believe we met Pospishil again at the restaurant of the station. My husband and Pospishil again left me. I cannot tell whether I waited for him at the hotel or elsewhere. My husband may have returned in 1-1/2 hours or so. He told me that Pospishil gave him 200 or 300 DM again. He was again supposed to gather some information for Pospishil pending the next meeting two months later. My husband also told me that Pospishil required him to prepare a personal history statement. I don't know whether he also signed an undertaking.

My husband again gathered information on Czech emigrants pending the next meeting. I do recall that he copied the names of several persons off the name plates of divorcee houses near Elisabethstrasse while taking a walk in Schwabing. He said that these houses were occupied by members of RFE. He entered these names on a list. I wish to state that I myself did not see this list. My husband did not visit any other houses in Schwabing or within the Munich city limits which were occupied by members of RFE, not in my presence. I personally don't know whether he procured some addresses elsewhere. At that time he was extremely nervous and we were often engaged in arguments for trivial reasons. I ascribed this nervousness to these activities of his. My husband and I then took this material to Vienna at the specified time. We again booked a room at the hotel. It was not the Hotel Zeech. We were to meet Pospishil only in the evening. We whiled the time away by going for a walk and fortuitously encountered Pospishil on the street who was in the company of Eva. I am positive that this encounter was purely accidental. I was overjoyed and wanted to embrace Eva, but Pospishil did not let me. Subsequently, Pospishil took us to the house of another Czech, a good friend of Pospishil's. There we were able to talk with Eva. Pospishil stayed in an adjoining room. He was able to overhear what we were talking. Likewise, we were not free to take Eva with us to our hotel, she was required to spend the night at the aforesaid apartment. Eva was never alone, she was escorted by Pospishil at all times. We spent some four days in Vienna. I don't know when and where my husband gave Pospishil the list of RFE members. I cannot remember any longer whether Pospishil gave my husband any money at that time. I now recall that the first name of Pospishil's friend at whose house Eva stayed was Mirek. I don't know his surname.

After having seen Eva in Vienna, my husband and I again went to Vienna another time. I cannot tell when. I am sure there was an interval of several months. This visit, too, served the sole purpose of my husband meeting Pospishil. I cannot tell, however, what my husband handed to Pospishil on that occasion. On

that occasion - to the best of my recollection - Mirek came to our hotel and told my husband that henceforth there will be no more meetings in Vienna, they will take place in Switzerland. Having been questioned, I wish to state in reply that I cannot tell how many times we had gone to Vienna subsequent to Eva's visit. My husband merely told me off and on that Pospisil had given him some money.

I cannot tell at this time, without refreshing my memory from my records whether I had been employed by the US Army at Warner Casern this time. Later I was sent to Henry Casern, Munich. In both barracks I worked at the tailor-shop. I don't recall my husband ever querying me about the barracks and the army elements stationed therein. I told him about my work of my own accord. I attended to all tailor's work, I also sewed insignia on uniforms. I positively deny having ever taken any insignia with me. The interrogation was interrupted.
Reason: Preliminary hearing before a committing magistrate.
Time: 1500 hours.

SECRET

Munich, 30 June 1959

STATEMENT

EGNA - 46246 / 1

Having been produced from Stadelheim Prison,

Wilhelmine Darnopol
personal data previously listed,

continued her statement of 23 June 1959 as follows:

"In my last statement I merely broached the meeting with my daughter Eva in Vienna, and I want to enlarge on it today. It is true, though, that I still cannot tell the exact date of my meeting with my daughter Eva. I am positive, however, that, up to the time that we met my daughter in Vienna, my husband and I had been going to Vienna once every two or three months since March 1954, where we always met Pospishil. It is true though that I did not see Pospishil at each and every meeting in Vienna. As Pospishil had promised right in the beginning that he would bring Eva to Vienna some time, he honored his promise I believe in the spring of 1955. I believe that Pospishil told my husband at one meeting in Vienna that Eva will be in Vienna the next time. I cannot tell any more when that happened. I knew positively that we stayed in Vienna for three days at that time. My husband and I went to Vienna by train on that occasion. I believe they stamped our passport on the frontier. Inasmuch as my passport shows an entry stamp 6 May 1955 and an exit stamp 10 May 1955, and as we remained in Vienna for three days, that should be the time when Eva was in Vienna. We had arrived in Vienna in the afternoon of that day, and we had an appointment with Pospishil only at 1900 hours, in a tavern. I don't recall any more where. We did not stay at the Hotel Zosch, either, we booked a room at another hotel. I don't remember the name of this hotel either. As we had made an appointment for 1900 hours, my husband and I went for a walk. When roaming the city we happened to meet Pospishil on the street and in his company my daughter Eva. We exchanged greetings and Pospishil took us to the house of one Herr Mirek. I don't know Mirek's true name but he is Czech. By the same token, I don't know Mirek's address. We walked there, to the best of my recollection this apartment was on the second or third floor of an apartment house in downtown Vienna. The apartment consisted of 2 or 3 rooms and was not very well furnished. Mirek, whom I had not seen before, is married. His wife was also present. Of course, I cannot positively state that this woman was his legitimate spouse. We were allowed alone to talk with our daughter Eva in one room, while Pospishil and Mirek were sitting in an adjoining room, door open so that they were able to overhear our conversation. We remained at that house up till the evening. I cannot tell whether Pospishil and Eva accompanied us when we left. I don't know either, whether Eva had been staying at Mirek's house. Next day, I believe around noon, we returned to Mirek's house. Pospishil and Eva were also there.

EXHIBIT II REGION IV (MUNICH)
FILE
SUBJECT DARNOPOL, Wilhelmine nee Rybakov
dtd 3 September 1959

We spent all day together. I believe we also had lunch or supper together. All talks were strictly personal. Owing to the fact that we had not seen our daughter for many years there was plenty to talk about. The next day, too, we spent together, but I don't know any more what we did on that day. I cannot remember whether my husband had a meeting with Pospisil alone. It is true, though, that they both repeatedly had talks without witnesses during those three days. I cannot tell whether Pospisil gave my husband money or any assignments during this stay in Vienna. Likewise, I am unable to tell whether we returned home on the third day or the day after. I did not notice anything, either, concerning arrangements for further meetings through my daughter.

I don't remember when we went to Vienna again. I cannot tell either how many times we had been in Vienna after we met Eva. Maybe several times. Conversely, I do positively recall that Mirek came to the Hotel Zeech on one of these last visits of Vienna and that he told us that we must not come again to Vienna but we would now meet in Switzerland. I recall it because we had already gone to bed when Mirek came so to see us at the hotel. Mirek did not say why we were no longer to come to Vienna. It is true that I remember Mirek saying when and where we would meet in Switzerland though. I cannot recall any pertinent details any more. All I know is that the next meeting was set for Zurich, Switzerland. I don't know either what assignments my husband was supposed to carry out up till the Zurich rendezvous. He did not tell me. I don't recall how long it took before we went to Zurich. I believe it was two or three months. I don't recall the year either. I do now recall though that it took place prior to Eva's visit to Munich. Eva visited us in September or October 1957. My husband and I went to Zurich in our car. We left Munich around 8 and arrived in Zurich in the afternoon. We met Pospisil on a little square at Zurich, I don't know its name. My husband and Pospisil left while I took a walk and then sat in the car waiting. My husband may have returned after an hour or so. I don't know what assignments my husband was given at this meeting. I do recall that my husband was pretty much excited when he returned and this is why I asked no questions. I cannot tell either how much money my husband received. I don't know when the next rendezvous took place at Zurich. I believe though that we went there again some two or three months later. I cannot tell either whether my husband met Pospisil or another man at this meeting at Zurich as I did not see that man or any man for that matter. I don't recall either how many meetings we attended at Zurich, I do know, however, that we went there once every two or three months.

As I previously stated, my daughter received an official permit to visit with us in Munich in September or October 1957. She was staying with us three weeks at that time. I believe that my daughter knew of my husband's meetings with this intelligence agent, we did not discuss it with her, though. Subsequent to my daughter's visit of Munich, we currently went to Zurich at two or three-month intervals. We were also several times at St. Gallen, Switzerland. I don't know whether my husband attended a rendezvous every time we went to St. Gallen. We always went to Zurich or St. Gallen over the weekends. We did not spend the night at Zurich, it was too expensive there. We always went to another place, which I no longer recall.

I always accompanied my husband to his meetings, not as you might be led to believe in order to also report on missions accomplished, or to meet members of the GIB, but merely so as to get out of town and not having to hang around the house. Though it is true that I do know that my husband received several times amounts of DM 200 or 300 on such meetings I cannot tell whether or not he got money at each and every meeting. On one such trip to Zurich we were accompanied by an acquaintance of ours, one Knecht Seidel, Munich, Clemensstrasse 2/4. I wish to make a point of the fact that Frau Seidel was ignorant of my husband's relations with the GIB. We had merely invited her to take a weekend trip with us.

A good friend of ours is tailor Jaroslav Strouhal, Munich, Clemensstrasse 2. Though it is true that Strouhal hails from the GIB, we got to know him here only a few years ago. He works for the Americans at Henry Casern. I don't know whether he knew of my husband's relations with the GIB or whether he himself maintains such relations. To date he did not attend any meeting along with us. Some two months ago, I believe in April, he was spending a holiday with us in Italy. We did not stay in one place in Italy, we were camping every day at another place. Some time ago, Strouhal asked my husband to take his leave so that they could travel together and visit a mutual friend at Zurich on that occasion. This is why we went via Zurich where we spent the night. We visited Strouhal's Zurich friend - his first name is Jura. I don't know his complete name, Jura is a Czech who married a Swiss girl. We have known Jura some 1-1/2 years, he repeatedly visited Strouhal in Munich. I don't know whether my husband had met Jura on the occasion of his previous meetings. He never told me.

After our vacation, my husband met no member of the GIB again, at least I don't know that he did, and we did not attend any rendezvous since that time.

I also wish to state on one occasion - several years ago - we were visited at our Munich house by a Viennese, one Schoenlych. I don't know whether he was Pospisil's emissary, I merely heard him tell my husband to come to Vienna again and see Pospisil. I don't recall whether my husband had failed to attend one or two meetings at that time. Under the circumstances it appears that he probably did so. I was present only during part of the talk my husband had with Schoenlych. This is why I cannot tell what the two men discussed.

As I stated at the outset, I was aware right from the beginning of my husband's relations with the GIB. I also got to know Pospisil and Kirek in Vienna, both members of the GIB. I was only partly informed of the assignments my husband was supposed to carry out. Having been charged now with having aided and abetted my husband in accomplishing his missions or having partly myself carried out some assignments, I wish to vigorously deny such allegations.

I was now shown the notes found during the house search. I wish to state that I was ignorant of the existence of these slips.

Q: When were you employed at Henry Casern?

A: I worked at Henry Casern in 1956 and 1957, I was a seamstress of Charlie Company. In this capacity I met many soldiers, I also learned their names

as I was required to sew their names on their fatigues.

Q: Did your husband at any time question you out on Henry Casern, or did you tell him anything of your own accord?

A: I repeatedly told my husband about my work at Henry Casern; however, he never queried me on any specific matter. By the same token, I never told him anything other than what concerned my work.

Q: Since your husband was assigned to provide information on Henry Casern (you may satisfy yourself of this assignment), and seeing as you, in your capacity of employee of Henry Casern were in a position to furnish him with valuable information, there is reason to believe that you aided him in accomplishing this mission. Now then, did you ever give your husband any information concerning Henry Casern, and if so, what information?

A: I previously stated that my husband and I sometimes talked about the nature of my job at Henry Casern. However, when so doing I never related that my husband showed undue interest in it. For that matter, I would never have possessed such information on Henry Casern as listed in item 7 on this slip. I did not get around in the Henry Casern compound. I only know the building in which I worked.

Q: Do the names Dr. Kloepper, Bornberg, Binar, Malek mean anything to you? How did you get to know these persons?

A: Of all these persons I knew only Binar. During the era of Nazi Germany, he used to be the district or local Nazi-Party leader of Tschernowitz. Several years ago he came to see us at our house. He told us that he was living in Augsburg. I don't know how he got our address. He talked some time with my husband. I don't know the motive for this visit, either.

Q: Did your husband socially associate with colleagues of his office, or did such colleagues visit him at his house off and on?

A: To the best of my knowledge, my husband has only one friend, one Herr Gabie. I believe this man visited him at our house not more than twice. He may have come more often to our house, I cannot tell accurately any longer. Moreover, one Herr Hembrecht or some such name came to our house once. At the time, my husband was sick and had to tell him something. I believe he was not a friend of his.

When asked whether my husband had been bringing official records home off and on, I wish to state that I did not notice it. Likewise, he never talked about his office at the house.

My husband maintained relations with the GDR only in order to improve his daughter Eva's lot in the GDR. He always attended meetings over the weekend. When he was on sick leave he never attended a meeting. I have not told everything I know

of my husband's relations with the CIB. Should I have failed to tell anything I did not do so because I want to withhold anything, but because I have a poor memory, a consequence of meningitis I had when I was a child. I myself never received any assignment and never aided my husband in carrying out such assignments.

s/ W. Demeril